

Where everyone matters and every day counts



Houghton Regis Primary School Newsletter Friday 14th March 2025

Acting Headteacher: Mrs R Parmar
Chair of Governors: Mr T Muldownie
Headteacher: Mr J Edwards

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

We have had a great week and the children have been working hard, as always. I often have children coming to show me their work and this week, I have seen work from children in Early Years, year 2 and year 4. It is always lovely to see how well children across the school are progressing and we love to celebrate and reward their hard work.

This week, we celebrated British Science Week with the theme 'Change and Adaptation'. It is a great time to think about how the world is changing and how we can adapt to those changes. Across the school, the children have been involved in fun experiments based on the theme. I am sure your child will gladly share the fun and imaginative experiments they have been involved in this week.



I enjoyed watching the children in Charlotte class perform their assembly to other year groups. I was extremely impressed with their ability to speak with confidence and excitement about their learning in front of an audience. Thank you to the children in Orange class for sharing a range of facts from their learning across the curriculum. We are all amazed by the progress they have made this year. A huge well done to both classes. Thank you to all involved for making these assemblies a huge success.

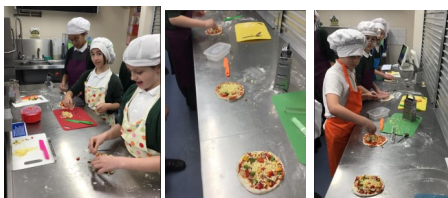
Children in year 5 began their cooking lessons this week and had a great time. We hope you enjoyed indulging in their dishes! Thank you to Miss Hayat for organising this and thank you to Mrs Harwood and Mrs Smith in the kitchen for leading the sessions.

Children reported that:

"It was really fun and I enjoyed it!"

"It is a very good experience and I would love to do it again."

"The cooking school is really fun because you can experience how to make something. Maybe you can make it at home with supervision. You also learn to clean up after yourself too."



A reminder that our Parent Consultation Evenings are being held at the end of this term. Appointment sheets are available outside your child's classrooms. Please see below:

The last date for year 6 boosters is Monday 17th March. We had initially planned to carry these into the summer term but we will be teaching additional sessions during the school day instead. Next term, we will be introducing a range of clubs for children from Early Years to year 6. A letter will be sent out with further information next week.

Day	Date	Time	Classes
Monday	31st March	3:45-6:15pm	Silver, Platinum Jubilee, Gold Platinum, Orange, Green, Purple, Charlotte, Blue, Amber, Emerald, & William
Thursday	3rd April	4:00-7:00pm	Silver, Platinum Jubilee, Gold Platinum, Orange, Green, Purple, Charlotte, Blue, Amber, Emerald, William & Charles
Tuesday	6th May	3:45pm-6:15pm	Yellow, Sapphire & Elizabeth
Thursday	8th May	4:00-7:00pm	Yellow, Sapphire & Elizabeth

PTA Updates

The PTA has kindly organised an Easter raffle for the children. Every child will be given their first raffle ticket free of charge. You can purchase additional raffle tickets from next week, which will be on sale in the gazebo after school. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 3rd April.

On the last day of term, Friday 4th April, we will be holding a non-uniform day to raise funds for our PTA. We ask for a contribution of £1 and all proceedings will go towards our PTA fund. We are grateful for the work the members of the PTA to support the children and our school. There are upcoming events planned and we would appreciate any support from parents who are able to volunteer. If you are able to support, please email the Chair, Mrs R Reid-Stavrindes at: ptahrps@gmail.com.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Mrs R Parmar

VALUE OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH:

Resilience

the ability to be happy, and successful again after facing a challenge



Kidz Zone Before and After School Club Information

If you would like further information on Kidz Zone, please visit our website or book on www.kidzzoneclub.com.

Years 5 & 6 Careers' Morning

In the summer term, we are planning to host a careers' morning for years 5 and 6 children.

We are looking for careers in any sector, such as: retail, hospitality, education, computing, engineering, medicine and healthcare, construction, media or performance of the arts, accountancy, banking and finance, law enforcement and security, leisure and tourism and more.

If you are able to support us with this event, please email the school office by Friday 28th March to express your interest at office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk.

School Dinners

The cost of school dinners is
£2.20 for Nursery and
£2.40 for Reception-Year 6 children. This can be paid via SchoolGrid.

Studybugs QR Code



Attendance Winners EYFS/KS1: Charlotte with 100%

KS2: William with 99.71%

Whole School Attendance: 96.2%

Housepoint Winners

EYFS/KS1:
Balmoral—31 points

KS2:
Buckingham—134 points

Overall Winning House:
Buckingham—194 points

EARLY YEARS

Nursery

This week throughout nursery, we have embraced the first signs of Spring. Mrs White has been busy planting with groups of children as well as exploring our forest school. The children have enjoyed noticing the changes in nature. Along with new flowers blooming, we have had new life begin with our baby ducklings hatching last week. They have brought great delight to the children who have been busy learning all about the life cycle of ducks.



Reception

We have been so egg...xcited looking after the ducklings for the last couple of weeks! We can't believe how much they have grown and continued to gain more confidence. All the children had a cuddle and a stroke. We have continued to learn how to care for them and listened to the story The Ugly Duckling to discuss and celebrate our differences. In maths, we have learnt to start counting on using numbers to 10 by using number lines and counters to jump on.



KEY STAGE 1

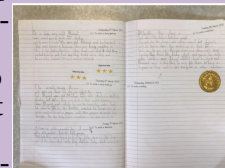
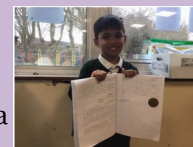
Year 1

We have thoroughly enjoyed experimenting this week. The children worked in groups to select an animal and research its living environment and ways in which it adapts. They then used various collage materials to re-create the environment in which the animals live in.



Year 2

This week, we enjoyed learning about capacity and volume in maths. We loved using measuring jugs and pots to measure volume in millilitres using water (this was a bit messy at times!). We have also started getting our pieces of material and accessories ready ahead of our sewing next week. We cannot wait for some of the parents to come in and help us with this! A big shout-out to Mikael who did an absolutely amazing job of writing his very own narrative. Everyone was very proud of him- including Mrs Parmar!



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

Year 3

This week, the children have been embracing the theme of 'Adapt and Change' as part of the British Science Week.

The children have investigated Cactus adaptation. They have also explored other Clever Plant Adaptations. In Reduce-Reuse-Recycle, we have looked at designing new uses for old t-shirts and creating a Wormery.



Year 4

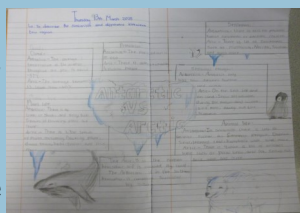
Children have been researching the Alps in geography. They have located the Alpine region on the map and which countries the mountains pass through. They discovered how the mountains were formed and created a fact file about their wildlife, formation, and tourism.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

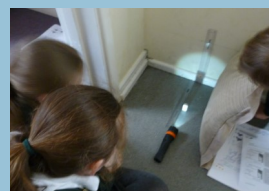
Year 5

This week, we have been busy during our English lessons, performing drama in role as characters from the story Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen. We discussed how dialogue has been used and re-wrote a chapter from the book. In maths we have continued to convert decimals into fractions using tenths and hundredths. The children are enjoying our geography topic 'Frozen Kingdoms' and have researched the Arctic and Antarctic regions, identifying the similarities and differences between the two.



Year 6

This week, we have been multiplying and dividing decimals in maths. We used our knowledge of number facts to help us solve the calculations. In science, we carried out an experiment to investigate how we can change shadows. In geography, we looked at why rivers are important. We have continued to look at how to use and understand spreadsheets during our computing lessons.



HEADTEACHER AWARDS



Congratulations to the following children:

Early Years *Mia C, Lily H, Yannis K, Elvin S*
Years 1, 2 & 3 *Julia Z, Zainab P, Crystal C, Grace D, Milan Z, Harry O*
Years 4, 5 & 6 *Izzy T, Emilia C, Bella-Rae S, Maya I, Elliott S, Ava H*



CONTACT INFORMATION

Office:

office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Nursery:

platinumjubilee@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

silver@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Reception and Key Stage 1:

platinum@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

gold@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

orange@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

green@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

charlotte@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

purple@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

SENDCo:

senco@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Family Support Worker:

fsw@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2:

yellow@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

blue@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

emerald@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

amber@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

sapphire@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

elizabeth@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

william@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

charles@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Upcoming Events:

Day	Date	Time	Year Group	Event
Monday	17 March		Year 5	Transition for year 5 children
Tuesday	18 March	2:45-3:10pm	Year 1 - Green Class	Class Assembly - parents invited
Thursday	20 March	2:45-3:10pm	Reception - Platinum Class	Class Assembly - parents invited
Tuesday	25 March	2:45-3:10pm	Reception - Gold Class	Class Assembly - parents invited
Monday	31 March	3:45-6:15pm	N, R, 1, 2, Blue Class, 4, 6	Parent Consultation Evening
Tuesday	1 April	9:30-10:00am	Years 3 & 4	Easter Performance - parents invited
Wednesday	2 April	2:45-3:15pm	Years 3 & 4	Easter Performance - parents invited
Thursday	3 April	4:00-7:00pm	N, R, 1, 2, Blue Class, 4, 6	Parent Consultation Evening
Friday	4 April		All children	Non-uniform day to raise funds for PTA
Friday	4 April		All children	Last day of term – school finishes at 2:00pm. There will be no clubs or after school clubs on this day

Summer Term

Day	Date	Time	Year Group	Event
Tuesday	22 April		All children	INSET Day—school closed for all children
Wednesday	23 April		All children	Children return to school
Monday	5 May		All children	School closed—May Bank Holiday
Tuesday	6 May		Year 4	Trip to Tring Museum
Tuesday	6 May	3:45-6:15pm	Year 3—Yellow & Year 5	Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday	8 May	4:00-7:00pm	Year 3—Yellow & Year 5	Parent Consultation Evening
Monday-Thursday	12-15 May		Year 6	Key Stage 2 SATs Week
Friday	16 May		Year 6	Bowling Trip
Monday-Friday	19-23 May		Year 2	Key Stage 1 SATs Week—Reading, Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling
Monday-Friday	26-30 May		All children	Half-Term
Monday	2 June		All children	INSET Day—school closed for all children
Tuesday	3-6 June		Year 2	Key Stage 1 SATs Week—Maths
Monday	9 June		All children	School photographs - please ensure children have their full uniform in school for their photograph.
Monday-Friday	9-13 June		Year 1 & Year 2 resitting	Phonics Screening Check Week
Wednesday	25 June		Year 2	Trip to Ashridge
Tuesday	8 July		Year 6	Key Stage 2 SATs results
Tuesday	22 July		All children	Last day of term

What Is a PTA?

PTA stands for Parent Teacher Association. Volunteer organisations like this are usually composed of parents, class reps, teachers and other school staff who come together for regular meetings to discuss the school year and upcoming events.

PTAs bridge the gap between parents, teachers and pupils, helping to build productive relationships and further ensure the school is a place where pupils can thrive.

PTAs are now established in most schools and parents enjoy working closely with teachers, creating bonds with other parents, fundraising for events, working with the local community and learning more about the curriculum.

What Do PTAs Do?

These groups may aim to accomplish a range of things, all usually geared at making the school a better place to learn.

Members of a PTA are likely to work together to raise money with a variety of creative events throughout the school year, encouraging the whole community to get involved.

PTA Events at Houghton Regis Primary School

In previous years, the Houghton Regis PTA has organised summer fetes, Santa's Christmas Grotto, discos and a sponsored walk to name a few.

Why are PTAs Important?

PTAs give parents more of a voice and get them feeling involved. Parents can provide the school community with a fresh perspective and highlight any concerns in a supportive environment.

The organisations are also instrumental in providing additional opportunities for pupils by strengthening the overall school experience.

Why Should You Join a PTA?

Being a part of your child's school PTA has several benefits:

- Scheduled meetings allow parents to keep up to date with upcoming academic events and socials.
- It creates stronger relationships with staff members, where they can easily communicate expectations and standards of learning.
- It allows parents to establish relationships and network with other parents.
- Parents can support the school in creating the best environment possible for their child and other pupils, helping make a real difference.
- PTA members can learn new skills, from fundraising and problem-solving to communication and creativity.
- As a member of the PTA, you'll be able to see measurable results and appreciate the impact of all your efforts!

Please email the Chair, Mrs R Reid-Stavrinides at: ptahrps@gmail.com if you would like to find out more information.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS



Penalty Notice Fines for absence from school are changing

From 19th August 2024 Penalty Notice fines increase to £160 for each parent, for each child.



You can be fined if your child has a total of 5 days of unauthorised absences in 10 school weeks, for things like:

- being late after the register has closed
- truancy
- taking a holiday without permission from the school
- or if a headteacher isn't satisfied for the reason for missing school

Over a rolling 3-year period the sanctions are:

- 1st offence – £160 reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days
- 2nd offence – £160
- 3rd offence – Court hearing and up to £2,500 fine, or up to 3 months in prison and a criminal record

For more information go to:

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/missing-school



Central
Bedfordshire
Libraries

Houghton Regis Library
Saturday Opening hours:
9am - 4pm

Central
Bedfordshire

great
lifestyles

EGGS- TRAVAGANZA

Visit us at Houghton Regis Library as we host
our very own Easter Scavenger Hunt along
with other activities, in collaboration with the
shops of Bedford Square!

Saturday
5th April
10am to 2pm

Easter Scavenger Hunt

Collect your Hunt sheet from the library, and
then go explore Bedford Square for clues!
*(library card required for entry, under 16s
only)*



Cheeky Chick Card

Decorate your own Easter Card to give to
someone special, or keep it for yourself!

Bunny Headband

Craft a flowery bunny headband and wear it
before, or after the Scavenger Hunt!



And more!
Whilst stocks
last

The Library's Easter Scavenger Hunt has been
sponsored by the following:

Cllr Chloe Alderman and Morrisons



www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/libraries



CBCLibraries



@cbc_libraries



@centralbedslibraries

Inclusive Football Sessions

**Every Sunday at
Venue 360,
Gipsy Lane,
Luton, LU1 3JH**



12.00pm – 1.00pm

Beginner session, including basic ball skills, gross motor skills and small sided games.

1.00pm – 2.00pm

Intermediate session, including ball mastery, technical drills and small sided games.

For booking information please contact
Martin Samm at

info@disabilityinaction.co.uk



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Personalised training top including
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Disability in Action